FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 243 *17 December 1982*

ARGENTINA

Multiparty March Ends in Riots, One Death B 1
Demonstrators Start Gathering B 1
More Than 100,000 Turn Up B 1
Central Ceremony Begins B 1
Wreath Laid B 1
Demonstrators Break Police Ring B 2
Police Disperse Demonstrators B 2
Gunshots Heard B 2
Plaza de Mayo Cleared B 2
Police Barriers Set on Fire B 2
Cameraman Wounded B 2
Young Man Killed B 3
120 Detained B 3
30 Policemen Hospitalized B 3
'Suspicious Package' Found B 3
No Incidents in Salta B 3
PR Says 3 Killed B 4
Parties Headquarters Gassed B 4
Multiparty Officials Meet B 4
Issue Communique B 4
No General Strike Planned B 5
Bignone Laments Riots B 5
Police Communique B 5
Multiparty Cites Issues Blocking Reconciliation B 6

BRAZIL

Itamaraty: Figueiredo Visit to Bolivia Not Definite [JORNAL DO BRASIL 15 Dec] D 1
Minister Admits Possible Cabinet Reshuffle D 1
Police Release PCB Secretary Dias, Others D 2

COLOMBIA

Government Revokes Banking Confidentiality F 1

PERU

Air Force Chief Says Mirage Purchase Under Study J 1
Belaunde Receives ROK Prime Minister 13 Dec [YONHAP] J 1

PANAMA

Paredes: Delete Article 2 From Constitution N 1
Tripartite Sea Level Canal Committee To Meet N 3
[MATUTINO 15 Dec]
Briefs: Maritime Treaty With Costa Rica N 4

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Army Launches Counterinsurgency Operation P 1
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 15 Dec]
Havana on Army Casualties, Rebel Actions P 1
Army Kills FPL Guerrilla Logistics Chief P 1
All San Sebastian Victims Reportedly Returned P 2
[DIARIO LATINO 15 Dec]
PDC Insists on Dialogue To Achieve Peace P 2
Unions Set Conditions To Join Labor Code Talks P 2
[Havana]

GUATEMALA

Reportage on Kidnapping of Suazo's Daughter P 3
Rios Montt on Negotiations P 3
Release in 'Next Few Hours' [Tegucigalpa] P 3
Economy Minister on Increased Trade With Belize P 4

HONDURAS

Communique on Kidnapping of President's Daughter P 4
Paz Barnica, Chavez Mena Hold News Conference P 5

NICARAGUA

Anti-Sandinists Offer 'Last Chance' to Regime P 8
Minisummit Perceived as 'Serious Threat' P 9
Envoy to Costa Rica Desires Improved Relations P 9
Officer Reports Clash With Large Somozist Force P 10
Havana Report P 10
French Officials, Others Send Condolences P 11
Diplomatic Relations Established With Iceland P 11

OTHER COUNTRIES

CHILE

Appeals Court Confirms Union Leader's Explusion V 1

MEXICO

C.A. Meeting Denied; OPEC Decision Upcoming V 1

SURINAME

Borders Reopened To Prevent Economic Slump V 1

MULTIPARTY MARCH ENDS IN RIOTS, ONE DEATH

Demonstrators Start Gathering

PY162022 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1957 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- At 1630 local time, all downtown Buenos Aires was under police control and the first groups of demonstrators started arriving at the corner of Mayo and 9 de Julio Avenues.

Meanwhile, the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, who started their usual demonstration at the Plaza de Mayo monolith at 1530 demanding to know the whereabouts of missing persons, formed a line and slowly advanced along Mayo Avenue up to 9 de Julio Avenue at 1600. The mothers were applauded by the people on the streets and by demonstrators.

Traffic has been interrupted from the Mayo Avenue up to Congress Square and in adjoining streets. While most shops on Mayo Avenue closed their doors, some restaurants have stayed open.

More Than 100,000 Turn Up

PY170006 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2349 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- This afternoon more than 100,000 persons from different political groups marched on Avenida de Mayo to demand the end of the military government and then gathered near Government House where they clashed with police forces. Windows at Government Palace and the nearby Economy Ministry were shattered.

The demonstration, which actually became the largest staged by civic forces since the advent of the military regime, was called by the Multiparty Group under the slogan "March of the people for democracy and national reconstruction," and was supported by the two major union organizations and other minor groups.

Central Ceremony Begins

PY162247 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2240 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (TELAM) -- The ceremony scheduled by the Multiparty Group began at 1915 [2215 GMT] in Plaza de Mayo with the singing of the national anthem. Our national anthem was played by the musicians union orchestra.

Wreath Laid

PY162302 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS In Spanish 2250 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- Only two leaders, Oscar Allende (Intransigent Party) and Francisco Cerro (Christian Democratic Party), were able to participate in the placing of a wreath of flowers at the foot of the pyramid of the republic at the Plaza de Mayo. Arturo Frondizi, Deolindo Bittel and Carlos Contin were unable to reach the plaza because groups of people got in their way. The Multiparty leaders arrived at Plaza Mayo at 1915 [2215 GMT]. The people began to disperse after the wreath of flowers was placed at the foot of the pyramid.

Demonstrators Break Police Ring

PY162322 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2311 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- Shortly after 2000 police hurled tear gas grenades at Peronist Youth demonstrators who got through the security ring and moved toward Government house. The demonstrators responded by hurling stones and burning neckties and pieces of wood. After hurling only a few grenades, police personnel adopted a wait-and-see position and placed two personnel carrier vehicles at the main gate of Government House.

Police Disperse Demonstrators

PY162334 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2323 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- Mounted police charged at the demonstrators and forced them to retreat halfway out of Plaza de Mayo. Demonstrators are dispersing rapidly and incidents are limited to some occasional running.

Gunshots Heard

PY162340 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2335 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos, Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- Gunshots were heard in the area of Diagonal Sur a few meters away from Plaza de Mayo.

Plaza de Mayo Cleared

PY162355 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2341 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- The police completely cleared Plaza de Mayo by 2030 but cleanup operations, hurling of grenades and arrests continue in the downtown area. Police ambulances were rushing through the area sirens blaring carrying an undetermined number of wounded policemen. Municipal ambulances were doing the same with wounded civilians.

Police Barriers Set on Fire

PY170019 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0002 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Dec (NA) -- Groups of demonstrators have set police barriers on fire at the corner of Callao and Corrientes Streets, some 15 blocks from Government House. Riots are reported to be taking place in this area, where two fire brigades are operating.

Cameraman Wounded

PY162357 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2349 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- A foreign cameraman suffered a deep wound in his head during the riots at Plaza de Mayo. The cameraman was carried on people's shoulders to the corner of Hipolito Irigoyen and Balcarce Streets, where he was picked up by an ambulance which took him to a hospital.

Young Man Killed

PY170118 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0030 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- A young person a little over 20 years old was killed by an occupant of a green-colored Ford Falcon who shot him in the stomach from a distance of 2 meters. The attacker managed to escape. The incident occurred at approximately 2030 at the corner of Hipolito Irigoyen and Bolivar Streets, a few meters away from the cabildo [first government house]. The youth was killed at the beginning of the clashes, when the columns of people were withdrawing from the Plaza de Mayo.

120 Detained

PY170108 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0057 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- Francisco Satej, Federal Police superintendent for the metropolitan area, reported tonight that one person was shot dead with a small caliber bullet during the riots following the multiparty march. The person died at the Argerich Hospital, where he was taken after he was found alive at the corner of Hipolito Irigoyen and Bolivar Streets. The dead person was 30 years old. Satej also reported that there are 120 detainees.

30 Policemen Hospitalized

PY170110 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0105 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- A member of the motorized police corps has been hospitalized in the Churruca hospital with a skull fracture. Another 29 policemen with bruises were also admitted to the same hospital.

'Suspicious Package' Found

PY170120 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0047 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- Tonight the Federal police bomb squad removed a suspicion package apparently containing blocks of trotyl which had been planted at the Plaza de Mayo monolith, a few meters from Government House. The bomb experts carefully carried the package to a hopper truck parked near the area. The police throughly searched the square after the incidents. Dozens of officers searched virtually every corner of the square.

No Incidents in Salta

PY170008 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Salta, 16 Dec (NA) -- No incidents were reported during the demonstration which started here at 2000, local time, in support of the demonstration organized by the Multiparty Group in Buenos Aires. The demonstration was staged by some 500 persons, a sizeable number for local political activities.

PR Says 3 Killed

PY170211 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0159 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- Some leaders of the Radical Party [PR] stated tonight that the number of people who died during the incidents that occurred at the end of the march called by the multiparty might total three. However, it was impossible to confirm this report shortly before midnight. It is known that a person who was shot in the stomach near the cabildo died, and that his body persumably is at the Argerich hospital.

Parties Headquarters Gassed

PY170125 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0102 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- Police threw tear gas grenades inside the Radical Civic Union headquarters, but they did not raid the building. Similar actions took place at the headquarters of the Integration and Development Movement and of the Intransigent Party. Spokesman for the three parties, who were at their headquarters when the incidents happened, reported the above actions.

Multiparty Officials Meet

PY170203 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0157 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- The leaders of the five parties that make up the Multiparty Group are holding a meeting to analyze the consequences of the serious incidents which occurred at the Plaza de Mayo during the march called by the multiparty.

Issue Communique

PY170355 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0339 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- the presidents of the political parties that are members of the Multiparty Group released the following communique a few minutes ago:

"The march of the people for democracy and national reconstruction was a massive and peaceful demonstration of repudiation of the regime and its policies and it was also a demand for institutional normalization and for solutions to the problems that the nation is endoring.

"The Multiparty Group lays the responsibility on the authorities and it demands that the public be concretely informed about who were the perpetrators of provocation and who were the officials who were responsible for the indiscriminate and totally exaggerated repression that reached the extreme of attacking, with tear gas, party headquarter, where meetings were taking place that had absolutely nothing to do with what was happening at the march.

"The repression took place after the ceremony had concluded and the ordered dispersal had begun. The large concentration at the ceremony demonstrated that it was a geniune and peaceful attitude of the Argentine people that cannot be confused with the action of extremists or provocatuers.

"This type of attitude demands a clear answer from the military government."

No General Strike Planned

PY170401 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0347 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- Leaders of the two labor centrals who were consulted tonight have denied that they are studying the implementation of a general strike in repudiation of the police repression against the people during this afternoon's demonstration. In view of the persistent rumors that are circulating about a possible decision to paralyze labor activities throughout the country, the labor leaders denied that for the time being coercive measures will be used.

Bignone Laments Riots

PY170016 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0003 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (NA) -- Presidential spokesman Eduardo Maschwitz said tonight that Gen Reynaldo Bignone "laments that a civic-political gathering which was intended to be held peacefully has unleashed disorders." It was also reported that the president, who is still at Government House, has been in permanent contact with Interior Minister Llamil Reston.

Police Communique

PY170326 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0210 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 16 Dec (DYN) -- The police have released a communique charging that groups of "agitators," including "montoneros," have disrupted orders and provoked riots at the end of the Multiparty march held at the Plaza de Mayo.

This is the text of the police communique:

In keeping with the conversations held with the political leaders of the so-called Multiparty Group on this date and taking into account the schedule of the march called for by that organization which was to cover, specifically, the Plaza de Mayo, where marchers would arrive along different downtown streets, the Federal Police assigned 1,500 men from their different cadres in order to maintain public order, to guarantee the security of the different political groups and to prevent any kind of action outside the normal development of the event.

Therefore, police personnel were distributed so that their presence might serve the above purposes without interfering with the march itself.

Police took their positions at 1400 [words indistinct]. As of 1600, groups of people made up of 50 to 3,000 persons were seen walking along different streets leading to Avenida de Mayo. Later, the groups were seen walking along Avenida de Mayo and on Plaza de Mayo itself.

Apart from supporters of the parties making up the Multiparty Group, the presence of groups belonging to the Communist Party, to the Christian Democratic Party and to the two CGT's [General Labor Confederations headquartered on Azopardo Street and on Brasil street] could also be detected in the area.

During the course of the rally, in a place close to where the march was taking place, police personnel who had been previously stationed in the vicinity of the Avenida de Mayo detained five men who were carrying hidden wooden and iron bars. The detainees will face charges for violating paragraph A of Article 1 of the public security decree.

Political and union leaders from the Multiparty and from the two CGT's met at Plaza de Mayo approximately at 2000.

After placing a palm leaf and white carnations at the foot of the Plaza de Mayo monolith, the above leaders decided to end the march because the chants and slogans shouted by groups which did not belong to the Multiparty would not permit the singing of the national anthem.

When marchers began to disperse, groups of agitators who were [words indistinct] Government House set a [word indistinct] in uniform on fire, seeking to overwhelm the police personnel who had been previously deployed in the area.

The demonstrators hurled stones, tiles, cherry bombs and other elements at the Government House building. For this reason, the demonstrators were dispersed with tear gas.

The actions carried out by these agitators caused 30 policemen to be injured, 10 of whom are in serious condition.

Other perfectly organized groups simultaneously began to hurl stones at the windows of shops located on Diagonal Sur, Diagonal Norte, Avenida de Mayo, Carlos Pellegrini, Plaza de La Republica, Corrientes, Florida and adjacent areas.

The police officers made all possible efforts to prevent the columns of the parties that make up the Multiparty Group, which were trying to disperse in an orderly fashion, from being attacked or injured during the incidents.

Members of the PDT [not further identified] Montoneros, Peronist Youth, Revolutionary Communist Party, Popular Workers Party, groups belonging to the Humanism, Liberation and More [Humanismo y Liberacion y Mas] factions, and of the UJS [Socialist Youths Union] were seen participating in the incidents.

The situation in the downtown area began to normalize at approxiamtely 2130 [0030 GMT]. However, isolated groups of agitators -- which could be easily controlled by the police forces -- could still be seen at this time.

By 2130 there were 35 injured policemen, 10 of whom are in serious condition, 30 injured civilians, 80 detainees and [word indistinct] fires which were put out by the fire brigade.

[Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 0221 GMT on 17 December reports that "the police communique did not mention the youth who was killed during the incidents. Moreover, the communique reported 80 detainees and a number of injured less than the final figure. The communique was drawn up before the total number of detainees -- 120 -- and the death of the young person were confirmed. The total number of injured person exceeds 80. These figures have been confirmed by the police and by other sources."]

MULTIPARTY CITES ISSUES BLOCKING RECONCILIATION

PY171136 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2030 GMT 16 Dec 82

[DYN introduces item as follows: "Text" of document released by the Multiparty Group after march staged in Buenos Aires on 16 December]

[Text] [No dateline as received] This call to the people is a living symbol of the Argentine hope and a genuine expression of its dignity. It is an overwhelming demonstration of a deep desire for national unity; an expression of indignation and protest and a proposal to seek sound alternatives that would be instrumental in rebuilding the fatherland's future in peace, freedom and democracy.

We are going into the streets now on the first anniversary of the release of another document by the Multiparty Group. At that time, parties and other national sectors warned the country and the ruling regime about the depth and extent of the crisis, and proposed a program that would help restore the basic conditions required to rebuild the nation. Those proposals included ideas from union, business, cooperative, professional and cultural organizations. There has been no response to such a high example of political maturity.

The military government has turned deaf ears and a blind eye to a true outcry of the citizenry. It grossly overlooked the expression of a true, overwhelming national majority but persisted in serving clearly antinational minorities. It is this very attitude and the arrogance and disrespect for popular sentiments stemming from it that prompted this march of the people for democracy and national reconstruction.

The alarming references we gave then in the document entitled "Before It Is Too Late" not only went unheeded but the overall Argentine situation has dramatically worsened since, to the extent that in many cases it is now already too late to achieve recovery without fresh and greater sacrifice.

The deterioration thus included loss of international prestige, the undermining of our sovereignty and the grief that came into our homes; the near destruction of the productive apparatus, widespread hunger and misery; collective frustration and a critical narrowing of our chances to achieve national recovery.

It can therefore be understood why this steadily deteriorating situation has been marked by a steady moral decay, which is destroying the very essentials of our nation and which could plunge us into chaos by weakening our fundamental values. This is so because hypocrisy, fear and corruption prevail amid the ruling sectors, which are trying to make everyone their accomplice in the destruction of our country.

The strong interests of unpopular minorities still remain untouched in the current misrule, and their antinational plans have forced them to place all kinds of obstacles in the path to democracy, to the extent of having engaged in the adventure of a war followed by the humiliation of defeat.

Under these circumstances, misery is a debasing reality. Workers' wages cannot even cover the minimum food, health, education and housing needs. The same thing happens to retirees and pensioners, while a wide range of unemployed persons has been condemned to inhuman living conditions.

The economic policy has also hurt local production and industry, forcing businesses into bankruptcy and the agricultural and livestock sector into capital losses. Argentine businessmen and producers cannot operate under the burden of a pernicious tax system with disproportionate and inequitable taxes and under the precipitous contraction in the local market and in consumption.

Professionals and technicians are facing a similar situation, since they can make no progress in a decaying society. They are brudened by both material and spiritual difficulties. They are given no opportunities and their contributions to our country's development are not as significant as they could be considering their knowledge and their dedication, since they are engaged in tasks which have nothing to do with their skills. Their only alternative is to leave the country.

Young people have been the target of constant aggression during their formative years, an aggression which has been aimed at turning them into things rather than human beings and at making them accept a false order instead of building their own freedom. Access to education has been therefore restricted not only by social deterioration but also by the different kinds of obstacles that this regime has erected. As a result of all this, neither the technical resources nor the necessary atmosphere of freedom prevail within our educational system.

Cultural activities have been severely curtailed. Scarce resources, indiscriminate censorship and the encouragement of self-censorship and ideological persecution -- the most ill-fated examples of which are the so-called "blacklist" -- have been resorted to in order to restrict scientific and artistic creation. Thus, a policy which has yielded only mediocre intellectual and creative results has done away with any possibility of national cultural development.

This dramatic picture of Argentine society is reflected with more intensity in rural areas. Our chronically neglected provinces and rural regions had to bear the constant plundering of these 6 years [of military government]. Rural areas show the deep contrast between undeveloped resources and Argentine citizens who live miserably, a situation which clearly indicates considerable backwardness and neglect of our rural lands.

Within this context, the military dictatorship has not given clear indications of its intention to reinstall the republican regime but, on the contrary, it has once again imposed conditions on the future constitutional government, either by forcing it to accept some form of perpetuation or by passing on to the next government force those serious problems which are the direct responsibility of the dictatorship itself.

There are five issues which, among others, clearly depict this military regime as a disturbing factor in the pursuance of the goal of national reconciliation and unity, which a vast majority of Argentines are seeking to accomplish. Those issues are:

1. A persisting ambiguity in the institutionalization process. There is no reply to the request for the immediate and precise deadlines the citizenry has been demanding. While the definition of the electoral legislation is being delayed, voices have been heard threatening that elections may be called for in stages, all of which involves imposing conditions on the will of the people. The Constitution must be respected and no attempts should be made to distort the people's expression through maneuvering. Likewise, governors and officials who still keep their jobs have made use of public resources in favor of the so-called "friends of the process."

2. An evasive attitude toward the need for a sincere solution to the missing persons issue. It is unacceptable that no answer has yet been given to the demands raised by national conscience and dignity. The fact that the existence of "repression excesses" has been admitted -- with the intention of blaming those excesses on the institutions as they are, instead of clarifying the different degrees of responsibility in order to preserve such institutions -- cannot be tolerated either. It must be understood that this demand involves neither a vindication of terrorism nor a feeling of revenge, but that it is an absolutely unpostponable demand which will be harder to meet as time passes. Complex and delicate as it is, it is a real issue. The sooner and more sincere the answer, the less painful the solution.

3. The delay in the clarification of the questions concerning the Malvinas war reflects interrelated commitments in the high echelons.

Instead of admitting a lack of planning and mistakes in judgment, which were transmitted to the people through distorted information, the intention is to depict that war as a step forward in the vindication of our sovereignty over the islands, while in the diplomatic arena we have actually gone back to a situation which is more unfavorable than the situation that existed on 2 April 1982 and even worse than the situation that existed 17 years ago. Individual responsibilities should also be clarified in order to clear the institutions of any blame and in order to resume the path leading to the recovery of our sovereignty.

4. The repeated confirmation of a socioeconomic policy that has been squarely rejected by the entire country. Such a disregard for the people's will is an absurd position on the part of those who claim they are leading the country to democracy. Their position is unacceptable because that policy has destroyed the productive apparatus, has caused the standard of living to fall to unprecedented low levels, has encouraged speculation to the detriment of work and production, has caused an overwhelming foreign debt, has permitted inflation to soar and has put the Argentine society on the very verge of uncontrollable social outbursts.

The stubbornness in maintaining the present socioeconomic model is a clearly destructive position. This policy has not only caused the most serious crisis in Argentine history, but has also given rise to the general idea that human rights and the democratic values of the people were violated to support the illegitimate interests of small groups of speculators and antinational groups. The maintenance of this plan is clear evidence of a willingness to downgrade our country to an oversimplified and dependent economy.

It is necessary to insist that these views do not belong to a group of leaders of political parties only. The entire nation has repeatedly expressed these views during massive protest demonstrations, ranging from the poignant sight of the farmers pouring the fruit of their labor on the streets on 6 November to the strike held by the labor sector that involved the whole community.

In view of this atmosphere of consensus, the stand taken by some officials in attempting to attribute the people's legitimate claims to subversive motives can be described as absurd and irresponsible.

5. The union rights granted by our Constitution have been systematically denied. In addition to the extremely serious situation that was created for our workers, arbitrary changes in the laws on professional associations and on social programs continue to be made. These changes have merely served to create privileges. The labor organizations have not been allowed to function normally and the legislation banning the right to strike continues in force. Social programs continue to be managed by persons other than their legitimate directors, something that has caused management irregularities.

All these problems, which have continuously gotten worse, were categorically outlined 1 year ago. Similarly, specific solutions were proposed and improvements to these solutions were suggested from time to time. These solutions made, and currently make up, an alternative plan approved by the majority of the people. For this reason, only shortsightedness and vested interest can continue to maintain a policy that the country as a whole rejects.

The people and the multiparty group hereby forcefully reassert those proposals and stress the need for their immediate implementation to prevent hard times for the nation. These proposals are, as they have always been, at the disposal of the nation and of those persons who are willing to resolve the country's situation.

The march is an action that reasserts the spirit of the claims made and of the agreements reached 1 year ago. The march is aimed at strengthening national unity, but at the same time at repudiating the government's attempts to downplay the real extent and significance of the people's genuine and peaceful expressions protesting against the dramatic situation the Argentine people are experiencing.

The military government should establish a clear and precise plan for the country's final normalization. This plan should contemplate transferring the government to the new authorities on 12 October 1983 at the latest, giving a just and final solution to the missing persons issue, determining responsibility for the Malvinas war, releasing all arrested persons who have not been put at the disposal of the courts, lifting the state of siege, annulling the institutional acts, dispanding the forces of repression, normalizing the management of labor unions and social programs, reinstating the dismissed public servants, and ending the ideological censorship and the so-called "blacklists." Similarly, the government should refrain from attempting to continue to control vital areas such as the media and university chairs. Moreover, the government should rapidly and thoroughly rectify its socioeconomic policy, based on an urgent recomposition of real wages, eradication of unemployment and reactivation of the productive apparatus.

The military government should not distort the people's claims, let alone hide them behind rhetoric and lies.

The reconstruction being claimed not only encompasses the economy and the society as such, but also their foundation, which is made up of moral and spiritual values that should be restored along with the concept of solidarity between the various sectors and the Argentine people.

The military should bear in mind that power comes from the people, and that the people are clamoring for immediate institutional normalization and a solution to their most urgent problems, so that national reconstruction and reconciliation of the Argentine people can be attained within a peaceful atmosphere.

ITAMARATY: FIGUEIREDO VISIT TO BOLIVIA NOT DEFINITE

PY162121 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 15 Dec 82 p 19

[Text] Brasilia and La Paz -- Despite the fact that yesterday AFP and DPA press agencies announced that Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo had invited President Figueiredo to visit Bolivia in 1982 -- when he would allegedly sign the contract for the sale of Bolivian gas to Brazil -- Itamaraty stated that the subject had been "merely mentioned during the meeting of ministers of the River Plate Basin and that no date or place had been agreed on."

Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas stated that during a meeting with Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, Bolivian Foreign Minister Velarde Dorado had mentioned the possibility of a meeting between the two presidents but that nothing more had been done about it. Velarde met with President Figueiredo at Planalto Palace on the second day of the conference. They discussed the renegotiation of the Bolivian debt with Brazil of which $150 million has already matured.

According to DPA Figueiredo's visit was announced in La Paz by this very minister, Velarde Dorado, who noted the excellent relations between the two countries. The press agency added that Brazil has agreed to extend the maturity date of $145 million of Bolivia's debt and that by today the issue would be discussed in Brasilia by representatives of the two countries.

MINISTER ADMITS POSSIBLE CABINET RESHUFFLE

PY161343 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Minister Cesar Cals has predicted in Sao Paulo a cabinet reshuffle during Figueiredo's term. Reporter (Bahia Filho) reports on this.

[Begin relay] Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals admitted during a luncheon he gave for Sao Paulo journalists that President Figueiredo's cabinet will be reshuffled in March 1983.

Cals feels that the November elections have caused great changes in the country's political structure that will definitely lead to some changes in names. He added that the new names will come from the [word indistinct], who were successful during recent elections, although he did not explain the steps to be taken by the federal government to choose the new ministers. He said, however, that everything will depend on the weight of the victory of each one.

Cals sincerely believes that this reshuffling of President Figueiredo's cabinet will be carried out because the November elections have put an end to the careers of several leaders, although great politicians with promising futures have emerged from the election. Cals feels that the political (?leaders) who won the elections in their states will be praised, but those leaders who lost but put up the good fight cannot be dismissed.

Regarding relations between President Figueiredo's ministers and the opposition governors-elect, Cals said this will depend much on the treatment and the respect the governors extend, not so much to the ministers, but to the system they represent. Cals made it clear, however, that the governemnt will grant precedence to the governors elected by the Social Democratic Party.

The mines and energy minister did not explain whether he would return to the Senate to serve the remainder of his term as government-appointed senator, or whether he would continue at the ministry. [end relay]

POLICE RELEASE PCB SECRETARY DIAS, OTHERS

PY161539 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] All members of the Brazilian Communist Party [PCB] who have been charged with violating the National Security Law by the Sao Paulo Federal Police have been released. Reporter (Renato Lombardi) tells us about it:

[Begin recording] PCB Secretary General Giocondo Dias and six other communist leaders charged by the Federal Police with violating the National Security Law for participating in the seventh PCB national congress, were released by the Federal Police after being interrogated for 3 days. Lindolpho Silva, Moises Vinhas, and (?Severino Teodoro de Mellon) were released on Tuesday night.

Salomao Malina and Joao Guilherme Vargas Neto were released yesterday noon. Vargas Neto was kept longer because of an arrest warrant issued by the Rio de Janeiro military court in 1973. His lawyer managed to prove that Vargas Neto had been given amnesty and that there was nothing pending against him.

Early last night the Federal Police released Giocondo Dias, Regis Savietto Frati, and Almir de Oliveira Neves. On leaving Federal Police custody, Giocondo Dias said that he was participating with other friends in a seminar and not a PCB congress as claimed by the Federal Police. Dias added that at the seminar they were discussing the party's policy and legal status.

Dias said that they were treated normally by the Federal Police and condemned his imprisonment and that of 94 other persons. Three lawyers were awaiting the release of Giocondo Dias and of two other prisoners. The PCB secretary general declined to provide further details on the Federal Police raid on the place where they were meeting.

According to Dias, the publisher Novos Rumos and the journal VOZ DA UNIDADE had sponsored the seminar. Regarding his future, Dias said that a communist is also a citizen with rights, and that he will continue the course he has followed up to now, fighting for the legalization of the Communist Party. The interruption of the seminar and the imprisonment, Giocondo Dias said, were an act of despotism.

Regarding remarks made by Luis Carlos Prestes that the party was irresponsible in holding a meeting on the 20th floor of a building in downtown Sao Paulo, Dias said: That is how Prestes sees things. According to Dias, Prestes was [word indistinct] on making that statement.

The police officers who are dealing with the inquiry will hear again today seven of the 86 persons who have been issued warnings. All of them will be [word indistinct] except for Giocondo Dias, Malina, Savietto, Lindolpho, Neves, Vinhas and Mellon. The documents seized from the floor occupied by the participants of the meeting are being studied, and several papers have been turned over to federal experts for analysis. The seven persons who were held for 3 days will again testify before the Federal Police before the end of the month, according to the officers in charge of the inquiry. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT REVOKES BANKING CONFIDENTIALITY

PA161407 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Bogota -- In an unprecedented action, the national government has decided to lift the confidentiality of banks to prevent criminal actions or actions which abuse good faith. In a circular sent to the presidents and managers of the banking and financial institutions and the attorney general, Banking Superintendent German Botero de los Rios said that the financial institutions cannot legally (?uphold) banking confidentiality when the officials of the Attorney General's Office, in the exercise of their functions, are undertaking disciplinary investigations and require data or information relevant to the process. Mr Botero de los Rios said that jointly with the Attorney General's Office, they are working unceasingly to [word indistinct] operations which have been the object of doubt and to guarantee that the financial system will operate within morally and economically sound guidelines which will support the entire national economic process.

In his circular, the banking superintendent pointed out various segments of the national Constitution and bank laws on the basis of which the government has decided to lift the confidentiality of banks in the processes in which the Attorney General's Office has to intervene to prevent cases such as the one discovered in the Banco Nacional from continuing to affect financial institutions.

Furthermore, the patrimonial amnesty which the government is preparing with the approval of the State Council will be the basis for a realistic tax policy which will not lead to new taxes but will force the taxpayer to declare the exact commercial value of his estate. The objective of this measure is to guarantee fiscal adjustments of the national budget which will be translated into more production, employment, investment and savings. With these explanations, Finance Minister Edgar Gutierrez Castro obtained the State Council's unanimous decision to tell President Belisario Betancur that the declaration of an economic emergency is necessary to revise the Colombians' tax system. The executive branch left the decision pending until Tuesday when a special council of ministers will declare the entire nation under an economic emergency for about 30 days to guarantee the promulgation of the necessary tax reform decrees.

Gutierrez Castro, who is in Washington today attending an IDB meeting, has explained the need for the economic emergency as follows: The advances made in the financial field to (?overcome) the speculative and criminal movements affecting this sector represent an important starting point in the reorganization task. However, this would be incomplete if we do not act rapidly to bring order to the other side of the coin: public savings. Public savings [words indistinct] a policy of economic and social development. In recent years they have both been affected by tensions and forces which have restrained the growth and [words indistinct] inflationary program. These two situations now clearly shape an emergency situation which the government wants to attack with its constitutional weapons.

The country's organized businessmen have expressed support for the amnesty that the national government will soon issue. At the same time, they also proposed alternatives to improving the tax system and achieving a tax [word indistinct].

Juan Martin Caicedo Ferrer, president of the National Federation of Businessmen, Fenalco, sent a message to Finance Minister Edgar Gutierrez Castro expressing his organization's support for the tax amnesty. He pointed out several formulas which could overcome the problems which have frustrated previous amnesties.

AIR FORCE CHIEF SAYS MIRAGE PURCHASE UNDER STUDY

PY162119 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0305 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Lima, 15 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Peruvian Air Force is studying the possibility of purchasing French-made Mirage planes, Gen Hernan Boluarte, commander of the air force and chairman of the Joint Armed Forces Command, reported here today.

The purchase of materiel for the air force is being studied to replace obsolete equipment and to preserve Peru's military might, he said.

Boluarte made a brief statement to the press at the end of a ceremony marking the conclusion of the air force war college's academic year.

In response to a question regarding the air force's future participation in the struggle against subversion, he said that those are measures linked to military security and cannot be disclosed.

We have received instructions from President Fernando Belaunde to increase our participation, he said.

Last Saturday, Aeronautics Minister Gen Jose Garcia Calderon denied reports that the air force had purchased 20 French-made Mirage-2000 planes. Peru will announce the purchase of the fighter planes when the purchase has been concluded, the minister said.

Reports from Paris published in Lima said the Peruvian Government was negotiating the purchase of Mirage-2000 fighter planes.

BELAUNDE RECEIVES ROK PRIME MINISTER 13 DEC

SK140320 Seoul YONHAP in English 0304 GMT 14 Dec 82

[Text] Lima, Peru, Dec. 13 (YONHAP) -- South Korean Prime Minister Kim Sang-hyop Monday called on Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry, and conveyed Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's wish to see the Peruvian leader visit South Korea, according to officials traveling with the Korean prime minister.

The officials quoted Belaunde as telling the Korean visitor that he hoped that Kim's visit would give significant momentum to the increasing cooperation and understanding between Seoul and Lima.

During another meeting earlier in the day, according to the officials, Peruvian Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella told the Korean prime minister that Lima would lend "all possible support" to South Korea in the international arena.

Peru is the second stop of a three-Latin American nation tour for the Korean prime minister. He has visited Colombia, and will proceed to Chile from here Tuesday.

In another development, Peru and South Korea have agreed to form a bilateral commission on resource cooperation and to hold its first meeting in Lima next March. The agreement was reached Monday by Korean Energy and Resources Minister So Sang-chol, who is with the prime minister's party, and his Peruvian counterpart, Fernando Montero Aramburu.

PAREDES: DELETE ARTICLE 2 FROM CONSTITUTION

PA161830 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1515 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Speech by Brig Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the National Guard, on the occasion of the National Guard's Loyalty Day events at the headquarters of the 3d Military Zone in Santiago, Veraguas -- live]

[Excerpts] I ask the president and all the friends here, the civilian and military authorities, the national and foreign personalities and relatives to forgive me for not mentioning their names so as not to take too long because it is very sunny here.

Early yesterday morning as I was going to the stadium with my 20-year-old son, we saw in the newspaper CRITICA a photograph in which he, his brother, my late brother, Professor Paredes, my sister Marta Estela and myself appeared. It was a photograph taken after the return, 13 years ago. That occurred 4,700 and some odd days ago. I was surprised when I showed the photograph to the boy, who is already married, will soon be 21 and who is also going to be a father soon so I will be a grandfather in a couple of months. I told him to look at the photograph and then he began to ask me a lot of questions which made me quickly realize that he very vaguely remembered the significance of those events. As Materno Vasquez once told me, great and sad moments occurred on that 16 December 1969.

I continued to think about this and thought that if this young man, who was directly affected, since he was the son of a man who was ordered into exile along with General Torrijos, was so unaware of what occurred, then how would the rest of our young people remember? All the Panamanians who are 25 years old now were only 12 years old then. All the 30-year-old Panamanians were 17 years old then. Many of the children who we see here today had not even been born then. You know what we are like when we are 7, 8, 9 or 10 and even 17 years old; we are in a development stage. Our young people, who make up 42 percent of this country's population, do not really know what happened 13 years ago and much less in 1968, 14 years ago. I am going to very briefly and quickly recount what occurred because it is good that we remember the past and because it is good that our young people know how we reached political power in our country and what occurred on 16 December 1969.

After this, after such a lesson, the giant which we all carry within us awakened within Omar Torrijos Herrera [applause] who realized that power can be used for two things; to do evil or to do good.

Torrijos began to project himself and even we were astonished by what that man had within him and which we were unaware of. Then came the firm creation of the revolutionary process, an unquestionable leadership, affection in the rural areas, the people's power, the assembly of the 505 representatives was born in this country [applause] and it will continue. The system of representatives is going to continue. [applause] Then came humanitarian social laws like the labor code, the housing law [applause], the tax reform, the agrarian reform, the right of those who never had anything before to have something, to have what all human being deserve to have. [applause]

Torrijos perfected the independence of the Republic of Panama when he found another colossus from the nation of the north, former President Carter, whom we all love here. [applause] The two of them and good North Americans -- despite the opposition in that country also since the just and the honorable were successful -- both of them, [changes thought] Torrijos obtained the most that any other Panamanian could have achieved and Carter ceded the maximum that he could have ceded.

As I have already said once, what is important is that we all know that in the year 2000 there will definitely be one single flag in this country. [applause] How many Panamanians have died without knowing this and without having the hope of someday being a republic without a rent [incision], with another flag, with another anthem, with another currency, with another language and with another population? How many people died frustrated? Now we know, even if we are not alive then, that in the year 2000 only our flag will be there, and only our anthem will be played there, only the tamborito will be danced there and only Spanish will be spoken there. [applause] There will be nothing that is not Panamanian, nothing of any other nationality. There will only be Panamanians in that zone.

If you were to ask me what is the most important legacy that Torrijos has left in his short life, my reply would be the same as what Garcia Marquez has said: He placed us on the map of the world. He made all the fraternal nations of the world, no matter how big, respect us. He raised the consciousness of the armed forces and guided them. I do not want to say they are the best in the Americas but we are very proud to belong to them and to be their commander. [applause] They want to separate these armed forces from their people. That is the daily campaign of slander which you are probably listening to even over here. They want to separate us from the people. They will not achieve it. [applause]

This is why today we have brought a mechanized army here: More than 40 National Guard civic action tractors to fight extreme poverty and hunger. [applause] This is the kind of Torrijism he designed. [applause]

I am almost finished. I want to give the Panamanian people some good advice: Don't let them toy with your dignity. Let's not permit them to toy with the poverty of those who are still poor. Let's not sell your popular will. Be dignified at that moment when you are alone and you are about to cast your vote for the best Panamanians. You make that decision.

We are reforming the Constitution. On 30 July, we -- the armed forces and their president, Ricardo de la Espriella, of whom we are very proud [applause], Vice President Jorge Illueca and their government team -- referred to courageous measures that we deemed necessary and proper. One of these measures called for reinforcing the elections tribunal. This has been accomplished.

We were surprised to see that the opposition could not get together on this. They were unable to present the names of three candidates; they never did it. Then, the president picked a dignified and honorable Panamanian, Dr Cesar Quintero, and placed him in that position because the opposition was unable to come to an agreement in more than 50 days.

On that day we also announced the reinforcing, reorganization and cleaning up of the public administration as a result of the social security case, a regrettable event which, let's hope, never happens again. What happened is a fact. A great portion of the missing resources have been recovered. Others will be lost; I don't know. But the guilty parties are at the disposal of the authorities and they will be tried and those found guilty at an impartial trial will serve their sentences.

On that day we also announced salary increases for Panamanians who were earning 300 balboas or less. The president has already complied and has announced this. The increases were not only for them but also for retired persons and for nurses and doctors, for port workers too.

On that day we also announced constitutional reforms. The commission that will review the constitutional reforms has just been installed. I agree with the president in calling this the perfecting of the Constitution, the reinforcing of the Constitution, which is what Torrijos was unable to finish, what he left in progress. It is up to us to finish the work.

Mr President, honorable members of the Constitutional Review Commission: The National Guard does not need Article 2 to have its heart beat with that of the people. Relieve us. The armed forces respectfully ask you and the review commission to eliminate us from Article 2 because we are not just mentioned in Article 2; we are in Articles 1, 2, 10, 30, 200, 240. We are in the heart of the Constitution. We are in the soul of the people. [applause]

We don't want to return to the role of being an armed force that governs civilian governments; we don't want that. We want a civilian president and the succession of civilian presidents chosen through democratic and honorable elections that are orderly and patriotic, the way we are doing things.

However, some people have been misinterpreting us. What we gave our people on 30 July is not a sign or symptom of weakness. On the contrary, it is rather a sign of strength. Take Article 2. Behave well when you return to the presidency. If you are efficient, you will return to the presidency. However, at this time the opposition is not making enough points to deserve the people's vote; I see that. They are not getting together. Get together so that perhaps you may be able to aspire to winning votes when you have more discipline, when you get rid of that desire to call for blood-shed -- made continously on television and radio -- to call for the separation of Panamanian families, for taking away the citizenship from persons born in Panama of Panamanian mothers, calls by someone who is touring the Americas looking for non-Panamanian slogans and who returns full of anger and fury, someone who I am not going to identify, but who looks [laughs] who does not look like his people, who has not learned how to smile. Who is that person? Someone who dreams about me; what can I do? [laughter] Let's leave it there.

Now I am really concluding. Let's get our hearts, our feelings and our Christian faith ready to welcome the pope soon, to welcome His Holiness Pope John Paul II. [applause] Let him further bless this land. In this land, the pope won't need the popemobile. Do you know what the popemobile is? It is a car with a bullet-proof glasscage. The Panamanian people will be the popemobile for His Holiness John Paul II. The people will protect and guard him. [applause]

TRIPARTITE SEA LEVEL CANAL COMMITTEE TO MEET

PA160414 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 15 Dec 82 pp 1a, 8a

[By Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] It was reported yesterday that Vice President Jorge Illueca will install the tripartite committee that is to assess the options open to the Panama Canal at the Foreign Ministry's Yellow Room at 0900 today.

The committee, made up of U.S., Panamanian and Japanese representatives, will be charged with establishing the foundations for studies, but, it was learned, these studies do not imply any commitment whatsoever to building a sea level canal on the part of the three nations.

Official sources stressed they do not imply any commitment to making future modifications to the existing canal.

Nevertheless, the results of these studies must ensure respect for the principles of international law, in terms of the safekeeping and sovereignty of the Panamanian nation.

On signing the exchange of notes with acting U.S. Secretary of State Kenneth Dam in Washington on 30 September, Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado -- in keeping with Article 12 of the Torrijos-Carter treaties -- asserted that the two countries were taking a serious and responsible step that would benefit and assist the development, progress and trade exchange of all nations.

The Japanese delegation, which arrived here on Monday, is made up of Taso Yamaguchi, Osanu Imai and Yakao Chirota from the Foreign Ministry; Horomichi Toya from the Transportation Ministry; Saburo Waki and Ketsuro Nagase from the Construction Ministry; and Hiteo Suzuki from the International Trade and Industry Ministry.

The U.S. delegation, which arrived here on Tuesday, is headed by William Pryece, the U.S. Embassy's economic adviser; Richard Wyrough from the State Department's office for Central American and Panamanian Affairs; David Sciacchitano from the Office for Panama; Dwight Coach from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and George Caroly from the Defense Department.

BRIEFS

MARITIME TREATY WITH COSTA RICA -- The ratification instruments of a treaty delimiting marine areas and maritime cooperation were exchanged at the Panamanian Foreign Ministry on 14 December. The treaty, signed in February 1980 by Panama and Costa Rica, provides for the delimitation of marine areas, the development of cooperation for the protection of renewable resources within the marine areas and the furthering of international cooperation in adopting conservation measures. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Dec 82 PA]

EL SALVADOR

ARMY LAUNCHES COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATION

PA161554 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Dec 82 p 2

[Excerpt] Another military operation is being carried out on the slopes of Guazapa Volcano with the object of finding the hideouts of terrorists who are carrying out violent activities in neighboring settlements, the northern highway and secondary roads.

The military operation started at 0430 yesterday with troops from various garrisons, supported by Salvadoran Air Force planes which attacked rebel positions in various areas of Guazapa Volcano.

Meanwhile, infantry troops were combing the cantons of Tonacatepeque, El Guayabal, El Paisnal, Aguilares and Suchitoto, according to military spokesmen reports.

Residents in these towns could see or hear the shooting and the airplanes and helicopters participating in fighting that lasted several hours.

So far, the outcome of these first hours of fighting by the military units participating in the counterinsurgency operation is unknown.

HAVANA ON ARMY CASUALTIES, REBEL ACTIONS

PA161331 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Excerpt] More than 1,200 members of the Ramon Belloso Battalion, trained in the United States, have launched a new operation, with both artillery and air support, against guerrilla positions on Guazapa Volcano a mere 40 km from San Salvador. For the past 8 months the Salvadoran regime has been trying unsuccessfully to dislodge the FMLN from those positions.

Rebel station Radio Venceremos has announced that the rebel commands have stepped up their attacks throughout almost all of El Salvador and that in the last 72 hours alone the rebels inflicted 35 dead and more than 20 injured on the army. They also destroyed many combat vehicles. The station underscored the clashes that took place in Zacatecoluca and Santiago de Maria, in the Departments of La Paz and Usulutan, respectively, where the rebels put several soldiers out of combat. The station also reported that urban FMLN commands destroyed two telephone junction boxes in the city of Santa Ana, leaving the Salvadoran Army's 2d Infantry Brigade without communications. Meanwhile, in Jiquilisco, guerrilla forces set fire to several trucks and cotton farms.

ARMY KILLS FPL GUERRILLA LOGISTICS CHIEF

PA162304 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Official sources reported today that army troops in Chalatenango Department have killed guerrilla Benjamin Valiente, national logistics chief of the Peoples Liberation Forces, FPL.

The Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, sources added that Benjamin Valiente was the brother of Rosa Valiente, the common-law wife of Salvador Samayoa.

Terrorist Benjamin Valiente led the seizure of the French Embassy in El Salvador in 1979, and was in charge of bringing in war materiel for his organization, the Coprefa sources added.

ALL SAN SEBASTIAN VICTIMS REPORTEDLY RETURNED

PA162228 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 15 Dec 82 p 18

[Text] It was confirmed yesterday afternoon that all the people kidnapped by the guerrillas have returned to their homes, thus ending the situation of tension experienced by hundreds of people in the city of San Sebastian. It was reported that these people had been kidnapped last Sunday by about 50 subversives who broke up a soccer game and took the players and the fans.

PDC INSISTS ON DIALOGUE TO ACHIEVE PEACE

PA160354 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0152 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 16 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party (PDC) today insisted that a dialogue must be held with the left to search for peace, freedom and justice for the Salvadoran people. The PDC leadership reiterated this position during a news conference held today at the party's headquarters, which was attended by Honorary PDC President Jose Napoleon Duarte, Secretary General Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, Assistant Secretary General Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich and other executive committee members.

Duarte said a lasting peace must be sought in any dialogue with the guerrillas, "not to negotiate power but to negotiate the means to allow the people to exert their will." The former president of the revolutionary government junta said that the extreme rightwing's position of rejecting dialogue, presented by Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson, "is inconsistent with the Salvadorans' spirit of peace."

He added that the clandestine leftwing "wishes to maintain the guerrillas as an armed institution and to have them join the country's armed forces in order to destabilize the army." Moreover, Duarte noted that the guerrillas' peace offer presents "political-military solutions under which political control would be negotiated to destabilize the country."

Finally, the honorary PDC president insisted that "the leftwing must define its position on violence as a means for seizing power."

UNIONS SET CONDITIONS TO JOIN LABOR CODE TALKS

PA162327 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] The leading Salvadoran labor unions have signed a recovery program under which they pledge to struggle jointly for peace, for the release of a large number of labor leaders and for the defense of the interests of the workers, which have always been violated in that country.

The main demands call for the drafting of a new Salvadoran political constitution, abrogation of the laws by which state-run work centers remain militarized and respect for the organization, mobilization and activities of trade unions. Only if the regime meets these demands will the Salvadoran labor federations be disposed to accept the official invitation to take part in the drafting of a new labor code, the joint document warns.

Salvadoran labor unions have been carrying out their activities semiclandestinely since mid-1980, when the main leaders of the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation were jailed as a result of a strike in the electrical services sector.

GUATEMALA

REPORTAGE ON KIDNAPPING OF SUAZO'S DAUGHTER

Rios Montt on Negotiations

PA170207 Paris AFP in Spanish 0106 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 16 Dec (AFP) -- It has been officially announced here that the Guatemalan Government has not yet decided whether to negotiate with the kidnappers of Xiomara Suazo, daughter of Honduran President Roberto Suazo. She was kidnapped 3 days ago.

Meanwhile, the deadline set by the guerrillas for the publication of a political communique in the Central American and Mexican press and over Guatemalan television stations continues to draw nearer. They have announced that they will execute their captive if this is not done.

President Rios Montt said today that his Honduran counterpart, the father of the kidnap victim, has "left him free" to adopt any decision without pressures. "Roberto Suazo is not asking or demanding anything from me," the president said during a news conference.

"We still have 24 hours" to adopt a decision, Rios Montt noted, hinting at the possibility that the publication demanded by the guerrillas, who have identified themselves only the letters CPD [as received], will be authorized. He recalled that "Xiomara Suazo is a Guatemalan citizen," and that "all lives are worth the same."

He ruled out a deterioration of relations between Honduras and Guatemala in case of a fatal outcome.

Release in 'Next Few Hours'

PA162144 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] International dispatches indicate that the daughter of President Roberto Suazo Cordova will be released during the next few hours. Here is a report by (Napoleon Mairena Tercero):

[Mairena] We have received the following cable, datelined Guatemala City: Dr Xiomara Suazo Estrada, daughter of Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova, is going to be released during the next few hours. President Suazo Cordova is expected in Guatemala City late this afternoon.

Guatemalan Government sources reported the following conditions for the release of Dr Suazo Estrada. The Guatemalan Government, making an exception to its policy of not negotiating with terrorists, on this occasion has allowed the negotiations to take place.

Dr Suazo Estrada will be delivered to the diplomatic corps in this captial during the next few hours. The entire diplomatic corps, through its dean, has pledged to guarantee the publication of a communique from the guerrilla forces, which reportedly strongly attacks the Guatemalan Government's internal policy and the policy carried out by the Guatemalan and Honduran Governments concerning Nicaragua.

This information, which was offered at the Presidential Palace, adds that Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt himself authorized the negotiations, which have now ended and have resulted in the release of the Honduran president's daughter during the next few hours.

This has been an international dispatch from Guatemala City.

ECONOMY MINISTER ON INCREASED TRADE WITH BELIZE

PA160426 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 15 Dec 82

[Text] A Guatemalan trade delegation met recently in Miami with Belizean Prime Minister George Price with the intention of strengthening trade with Belize. Guatemalan Economy Minister Julio Matheu reported on the objectives of this meeting:

[Begin recording] I was one of those who met with George Price during the Caribbean Basin meeting in Miami last week. I was very pleased to see his positive attitude toward increasing bilateral trade. A few months ago we opened trade between Belize and Guatemala; this is border trade, which is particularly important for Belize. Trade between Peten and the Belizean cities near Peten is already underway and we spoke about the possibility that a Chamber of Commerce and Industry delegation may visit Belize to promote other products.

For the last few months there have been trade relations between several Guatemalan producers and buyers in Belize. Several Guatemalan products have been exported to Belize. I know that a shipment of cement was sent, and some food and medical products are also being sold. [end recording]

HONDURAS

COMMUNIQUE ON KIDNAPPING OF PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER

PA161415 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Communique released by the Presidency Ministry's information office in Tegucigalpa on 15 December -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Honduran Government reports to the Honduran people and to the international public that Dr Xiomara Suazo, daughter of constitutional President Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, was kidnapped early on 13 December in Guatemala City by an unidentified group. Dr Suazo's kidnappers have sent to the Guatemalan media and to the authorities a message demanding that a document containing ideological propaganda be published in all Central American and Mexican newspapers and aired on Guatemalan television stations. This is the condition set to release the victim of this unspeakable deed.

This very serious problem once again points to the existence of an extremist plot intended to prevent the emergence and consolidation of democratic processes in Central America. In this case, the crime is doubly unjustifiable, since Dr Suazo neither has any official connection with the Honduran Government nor participates in any way in the administration's official decisions, since her only link with the Honduran Government is her relationship with Dr Suazo Cordova.

The authorities will duly report on the resolution of this outrage against human rights perpetrated by elements who obviously lack even the slightest respect for the freedom and dignity of innocent individuals, whom they use and violently attack in the search for their unrestrained goals of power and domination.

PAZ BARNICA, CHAVEZ MENA HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE

PA161700 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2210 GMT 15 Dec 82

[News conference held by Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena at the Foreign Ministry in Tegucigalpa -- live]

[Excerpts] [Paz Barnica] First of all, I would like to thank the representatives of the national and international media for coming to the Foreign Ministry today. The purpose of this news conference is the visit by Dr Fidel Chavez Mena, the foreign minister of the fraternal country of El Salvador.

I would like to say that we have held very constructive and positive talks with Foreign Minister Chavez Mena today. He shares some of our ideas and has talked with members of the Honduran Border Commission. He is accompanied by his advisers, Dr Rene Padilla Velasco and Dr Oscar Canto Araujo.

The main purpose of his visit, as he himself will explain, is to discuss and analyze subjects related to the delimitation of the border and other bilateral issues. We also discussed other regional matters, but mainly we discussed the delimitation of the El Salvador-Honduras border based on the guidelines established in the 1980 general peace treaty.

[Chavez Mena] I would like to explain that the main reason for my visit here is the Salvadoran Government and Foreign Ministry's interest in discussing and solving the different situations that crop up in our bilateral relations. Our intention is to fulfill as soon as possible each and every one of the objectives listed in the general peace treaty that I had the honor of signing on 30 October 1980.

We spoke about the need to speed up the negotiations and the work of the border commissions of the two countries. To accomplish this we have set a work schedule for next year, in early January. It is a very ambitious schedule, and we hope it will be fulfilled. I would like to publicly express the political will of the Salvadoran Government and people to reach a happy and complete resolution of the matters that are still pending with the Republic of Honduras. I am at your disposal in case you would like to ask any questions.

[Question] It has been stated very clearly that the main objective of this meeting was to solve the border problem. However, we would like you to be a bit more specific: What are the obstacles, and what can be done to overcome them?

[Chavez Mena] The peace treaty says that the border commissions must hold direct negotiations. Naturally, the discussions have progressed somewhat. It is very difficult to mention specific obstacles. In the next round of meetings that will be held in January we are certain that with the political will of the two governments to reach a rational, logical and just solution between the two parties we will eliminate -- better said, begin to eliminate -- the obstacles.

[Question] I would also like to ask the Honduran foreign secretary to answer this question.

[Paz Barnica] As we have already said, the general peace treaty between Honduras and El Salvador was signed in October 1980. With the installation of the constitutional government of President Suazo Cordova, we mentioned as one of the objectives of his foreign policy his government's desire to give added thrust to the work of the border commissions by carrying out the necessary negotiations to reach satisfactory short term solutions.

On that occasion we felt that too much time had been lost since the general peace treaty was signed. Today, as Foreign Minister Chavez Mena said, we have had very positive talks and have agreed to hold a meeting in January to try to reach as far as we can with full political interest and will on the part of the two governments.

[Question] I would like you to tell us a little about the significance of the work accomplished by the commissions, and to touch on something else: It has been unofficially reported that you recently went to Nicaragua to talk with the Nicaraguan authorities in an effort to reach an understanding. I would like you to confirm this here. My other question is: Apparently there has been some friction within the Salvadoran Constituent Assembly. The apparent friction is between the Christian Democratic Party and Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance]. Does the Christian Democratic Party agree to negotiating with the FMLN, as they have proposed, with the mediation of friendly governments such as Mexico, Venezuela or France that are trying to initiate a dialogue in El Salvador?

[Chavez Mena] Regarding the border issue, the border commissions of both countries have been meeting according to schedule, in line with the program. There have been only two suspensions -- we could call them that; the commissions were unable to meet on 22 and 29 November. All the previous meetings took place in line with the program, according to the reports I have, and progress was made at those meetings.

Regarding your second question, I have not gone to Nicaragua. That was an easy question to answer.

The third question was about differences that could exist. Political parties of El Salvador that are represented on the Constituent Assembly have their own political concepts and ideological positions. Therefore, as happens in a democratic and pluralist environment, everyone can state his opinion and point of view.

Currently we have an assembly that was democratically and freely elected as a result of the first free elections in El Salvador, the 28 March elections. We also have an executive branch that was legally established as a result of indirect Constituent Assembly elections, and the time is getting near when we will have a presidential election campaign and various election events for the following 16 months. Therefore, there is no nothing-to-avenge, nothing-to-negotiate and nothing-to-yield attitude, as has been clearly stated. The doors are simply open so that all Salvadorans wanting to be democratic may participate in the democratic process without ideological or political discrimination of any kind.

[Question indistinct]

[Paz Barnica] The main objective of Foreign Minister Chavez Mena's visit to Honduras was to discuss the Honduran-Salvadoran border issue, but the circumstances were suitable for discussing other matters of common interest, in the Central American region context, since on various occasions we have been working together with other foreign ministers from other countries to bring a climate of stable and lasting peace to Central America.

We talked with Foreign Minister Chavez Mena today. We agreed that there should be a meeting of Central American foreign ministers in the near future. We also agreed on strengthening the Forum for Peace and Democracy created in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 4 October, with the participation of democratic governments from Central America and the Caribbean for the main objective of analyzing and agreeing on various peace proposals for Central America, strengthening representatives and pluralist democratic institutions, and searching for pragmatic ways of cooperation for development.

[Question] Dr Carlos Roberto Reyna, a well-known internationalist, today referred to Honduras' position in the international context. He recently returned from a European tour. He referred to Honduras' peace initiative. He also referred to defamation of our country, noting that while the foreign secretary of Honduras promoted a peace initiative, those countries get armed and the social problems continue in Central America. We would like to know Honduras' answer. I also ask the Salvadoran foreign minister the same question because we would like to know how much the social situation of the Salvadoran people has improved since he has been in office. We understand that the situation has been sad. First we would like to know the opinion of Dr Edgardo Paz Barnica and then that of Dr Fidel Chavez Mena.

[Paz Barnica] I have neither read nor heard the statement by Carlos Roberto Reyna. Honduras proposed a peace plan — the peace plan for Central America -- on 23 March. This peace plan has six points. It has received the backing and encouragement of important international sectors.

Regarding the countries' arms buildup, I want to say that one of the most important points of Honduras' peace proposal calls for a general disarmament in the region, that is, for a reduction in the number of arms and military elements down to the level strictly necessary for the defense of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the maintenance of public order. All countries have the right to strengthen their armed forces within this limit for defensive and dissuasive purposes, with modernization as the criteria.

The Honduran Armed Forces have repeatedly and categorically stated their full support for the policy of peace, democracy, human rights and cooperation with interdependence that guides the actions of the constitutional and democratic government of President Suazo Cordova.

[Chavez Mena] I could say briefly that we have supported the Honduran Government's program for the internationalization of peace. We think that to have peace, efforts should be made to satisfy three basic concepts:

1. To stop the arms buildup in these countries, because this buildup is obviously an insult and goes against the basic needs of the Central American people.

2. We think there must be a control system to halt the arms traffic in Central America, stopping the arms smuggling that is causing so much harm, pain and death in Central America.

3. We believe it is important to promote democratic openings in all Central American countries so that social and political expression may have proper institutional use.

We obviously have big economic problems. The deterioration has been caused to a great extent by the armed conflict, which has brought so much damage and pain to the Salvadoran people. The terrorist actions of the armed groups and the guerrillas have done great, unbelievable, damage to the country. It is impressive. They are responsible to a great extent for the economic situation the Salvadoran people are enduring. I think it is important for the Central American people to have a broader framework for economic negotiations, that there should be unconditional international backing to solve serious economic problems, especially in El Salvador.

[Paz Barnica] Because of a previous commitment, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Chavez Mena has to return shortly to his country. For this reason I want to thank you for being at this news conference, confident that you will know how to objectively convey what has been said here by Foreign Minister Chavez Mena and myself.

I want to reiterate my respectful and fraternal greeting to Foreign Minister Chavez Mena, and I state on behalf of the Honduran Government that our country sess further border demarcation as an honored commitment, because this will benefit our two countries and the Central American region and will contribute to understanding and mutual respect between the two nations. Over any difference that could have existed, there will be fraternal understanding and mutual respect, as I said at noon today. Thank you.

[Chavez Mena] It has been a great pleasure to be with you these few minutes. The word of honor has always been a commitment. This is a commitment and a desire of ours, to continue working to overcome difficulties and problems in relations between Honduras and El Salvador. I also want to take this opportunity to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year. Thank you.

NICARAGUA

ANTI-SANDINISTS OFFER 'LAST CHANCE' TO REGIME

PA162154 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2057 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] San Jose, 16 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Today Nicaraguan opposition leaders Alfonso Robelo, Eden Pastora, Fernando Chamorro and Brooklyn Rivera outlined here a formula for their country's pacification and democratization that they described as "the last chance" of the Sandinist commanders to opt for peace.

These leaders, who comprise the board of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), noted that the situation in their country is opening the door to another war, and they offered to help avoid it on the condition that the Sandinists grant freedom to hold elections "within a period that must be very brief."

"Unfortunately, the peace initiatives proposed by the fraternal countries of Costa Rica, Mexico, Honduras and Venezuela, as well as France, have not been effective enough to bring the desired stability and peace, and the best of intentions at the national [as received] level have not been strong enough to lead to viable solutions," the Arde leaders asserted.

They added that they welcomed "with seriousness and enthusiasm the responsible and timely position that was recently submitted by Olof Palme, the Social Democratic prime minister of Sweden, "who underscored that the best way to solve the current Central American conflicts is a political solution," which must be immediate and not subject to prior conditions." [quotation marks as received]

According to the ARDE directors, the achievement and consolidation of peace in Nicaragua is a necessary step in stabilizing Central America because it has been proved that "there will not be peace in the region if there is no peace in Nicaragua."

They added that "the electoral process is the only viable solution to avoid violence," but warned that elections must be guaranteed so the people can really elect their rulers.

In this respect, they reminded the members of the Nicaraguan Government junta of the commitment they undertook to the Latin American peoples before 19 July 1979, which included the "holding of free elections within the shortest possible time." This, according to opposition leaders, has not been fulfilled.

They then added that "time is a decisive factor for the credibility and fulfillment of this revolutionary obligation." They therefore demanded that preparations begin as soon as possible to elect a constituent assembly no later than June of 1983.

Regarding the conditions required for those elections, the ARDE members noted that they must be honest and free in order to guarantee participation by all political sectors.

Robelo, Pastora, Chamorro and Brooklyn Rivera made it clear that neither they nor the Nicaraguan people want to return to the past or to remain under the sway of totalitarianism, because those are the two alternatives that have placed their country in its present economic, social and military plight.

The proper thing to do would be to allow the Nicaraguan political organizations to carry out their proselytizing campaigns and establish a regulatory commission to guarantee the full exercise of public liberties, particularly unlimited press freedom.

MINISUMMIT PERCEIVED AS 'SERIOUS THREAT'

PA161351 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Guatemala City -- The main topic on the agenda for a minisummit to be held in Guatemala in January will be the coordination of joint antiguerrilla actions among the Armies of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

Presidents Roberto Suazo Cordova of Honduras, Alvaro Magana of El Salvador, and the host, Efrain Rios Montt of Guatemala, will attend the meeting.

According to ANN -- quoting Guatemalan official sources -- preparations for the minisummit are well advanced, and the results of the meeting will seriously threaten the liberation movements of El Salvador and Guatemala as well as the Nicaraguan revolution.

ENVOY TO COSTA RICA DESIRES IMPROVED RELATIONS

PA161745 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Companero Rogelio Ramirez, Nicaraguan ambassador in Costa Rica, has said that Nicaragua wants relations between the governments of San Jose and Managua to become normal and cordial again.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio summoned the Nicaraguan diplomat on Tuesday, in order to give him two notes addressed to the Sandinist government. In one of the notes, Volio protests charges made in Managua against Monge's government. the charges state that the Costa Rican president supports counterrevolutionary actions originating from Costa Rican territory. In the other, Volio asks for some explanations.

Ramirez said the meeting was very opportune, and added that had Volio not called him, he would have requested the meeting in order to discuss the problems affecting bilateral relations. We have problems, said Ambassador Ramirez Mercado, and therefore these meetings are very appropriate so we can talk in an effort to find solutions, or at least minimize, our problems.

Ambassador Ramirez Mercado said Volio is upset about the Nicaraguan reply to a presidential communique and statement that Monge himself made, stating that Nicaragua participates in an alleged campaign to destabilize Costa Rica.

Just as Costa Rica has expressed its determination not to intervene in Nicaraguan domestic affairs, Nicaragua has clearly denied any intervention in Costa Rican affairs, our ambassador said. This is our policy because we adhere to principles such as respect for peoples' self-determination. We were, therefore, very unhappy with charges that Nicaragua is involved in actions against Costa Rica.

Our ambassador in Costa Rica said that Nicaragua is willing to publish any document that Costa Rica deems necessary to clarify the Nicaraguan position. In reciprocity, Ambassador Ramirez asked that Foreign Minister Volio get San Jose television stations to broadcast the videotaped statement in which Hector Frances, former Argentine intelligence agent, implicates Costa Rican officials.

OFFICER REPORTS CLASH WITH LARGE SOMOZIST FORCE

PA160431 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 15 Dec 82

[Text] A plan by Somozist counterrevolutionary units to occupy Jalapa, in the country's northwest, between 13 and 15 December has largely been thwarted, it was reported here today.

Commander Manuel Salvatierra, chief of operations for the 2d Military Region of Nicaragua, confirmed that the counterrevolutiaonry forces in the area were neutralized after their command post, located before the Nubarrones Hill, on the Honduran border, was attacked by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]. He made it clear, however, that heavy fighting is still raging a few kilometers from Jalapa.

Salvatierra said that in the mountainous area of La Pita and Buenavista, 12 km southwest of Jalapa, EPS troops have been engaged in heavy fighting for 2 days with Somozist military units that are trying to retreat into Honduran territory. The counterrevolutionaries' plan was to seize Jalapa and the surrounding area, 292 km northwest of Managua, militarily, in order to establish a beachhead, appoint a provisional government and gradually seize neighboring towns.

This is the first time we have had to deploy large contingents to repel such large counterrevolutinary units, Salvatierra said. He estimated the Somozist forces that are operating in the areas of La Pita and Buenavista at 400 men. He stressed that the EPS has verified the command capability of its military officers, the morals of the reserve fighters and their progress in applying new military techniques, such as the use of artillery and aviation, in checking the Somozist attacks.

The population of Jalapa is currently increasing its preparedness.

Havana Report

PA162224 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Bands of Somozist guardsmen who tried to occupy Jalapa, in Nicaragua's Nueva Segovia Department, are trying to break the encirclement laid by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and return to their camps in Honduras. Press reports indicate that fighting continues, and that the counterrevolutionary forces have been badly beaten by the EPS.

ANN asserts that casualties among the conterrevolutionaries are estimated at between 60 and 100 because bodies of Somozists continue to be found in the hills near Jalapa.

[Words indistinct] that the attackers murdered over 10 peasants whose bodies were found in a common grave in front of Nubarrones hill, near the border with Honduras. The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry has announced that it will release a communique shortly on the results of operations to repel the attacks by counterrevolutionary bands in the Honduran border area.

FRENCH OFFICIALS, OTHERS SEND CONDOLENCES

PA162020 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] Messages of condolences regretting the murder of 75 Nicaraguan children continue arriving for the government and people of Nicaragua. Here is a report on this:

[Begin recording] Condolence messages sent to the FSLN Directorate and governemnt junta continue to arrive at Government House. These messages express sympathy for the irreparable loss of 75 Miskito children, victims of imperialism's unjust attacks.

We will now read some of these messages, including one sent by French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy to Antoine Blanca, French ambassador at-large in Latin America, which reads as follows: I have learned about the catastrophe that has brought mourning to my Nicaraguan friends. I ask you to convey to the Nicaraguan ambassador -- who in turn will pass on to his government -- my feelings of sorrow, my condolences to the relatives of the victims, and my expressions of solidarity with the Nicaraguan people.

French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson sent the following message: I was deeply moved when I learned that 80 Nicaraguans, including 75 children, died in a helicopter crash near the Honduran border. I ask you to convey my message of profound sympathy to the Nicaraguan Government and relatives of the victims. Receive my highest regards.

The Guatemalan Human Rights Commission has also sent a message, which reads: In view of the unfortunate national tragedy resulting from the death of promising Nicaraguan children, please receive and convey to the Nicaraguan people our sincere message of condolence and solidarity.

Andres Luna of the Peasant Confederation of Peru said: We are saddened by the death of the children. We express our solidarity with the protest of the Nicaraguan people and we condemn the attacks by the United States and Somozists as well as their possible intervention. [end recording]

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH ICELAND

PA170232 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] The Governments of Nicaragua and Iceland, by mutual agreement, have established diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level. This is the first time in the history of the two nations that direct bilateral diplomatic representation has been established. The details will be released in due time.

In this way, the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction continues expanding its international relations, reaffirming its traditional foreign policy of strengthening bonds of friendship and cooperation, based on equality and mutual respect.

CHILE

APPEALS COURT CONFIRMS UNION LEADER'S EXPULSION

PY161351 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Text] The Santiago Court of Appeals has confirmed the expulsion from the country of Manuel Bustos and rejected an injunction in favor of the president of the self-styled National Union Coordination Board. The court stated that the grounds of the decree ordering the expulsion of Bustos are in keeping with [word indistinct] currently in force. Therefore, it points out, the adopted measure is fully valid.

Manuel Bustos was expelled from Chile on 3 December for repeatedly violating the law and defying the authorities.

MEXICO

C.A. MEETING DENIED; OPEC DECISION UPCOMING

FL161410 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Mexico, 16 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- Spokesmen of the Mexican Foreign Ministry yesterday denied that a meeting of Central American presidents is going to be held in Mexico as reported by the local press.

Also a Pemex spokesman yesterday said that Mexico has not asked to join OPEC as reported by an international press agency, explaining that a decision will be made as to whether Mexico joins OPEC as an observer or as regular member during the meeting to be held in Vienna tomorrow.

SURINAME

BORDERS REOPENED TO PREVENT ECONOMIC SLUMP

PA170140 Paris AFP in Spanish 0058 GMT 17 Dec 82

[Excerpt] [place name indistinct], 16 Dec (AFP) -- The SURINAME NEWS AGENCY, SNA, monitored in this capital, has reported that Suriname's borders were reopened today following their closing on 8 December when the military seized full power.

SNA, which is controlled by the new military government, said that the authorities adopted the decision to prevent a deterioration in economic activities. It added that border posts will be under strict control.